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Annual Report

FOR THE TOWN OF

BENTON,
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Year Ending December 31

1981

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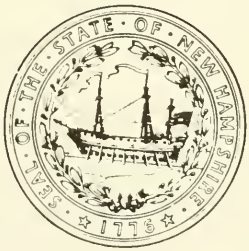
Annual Report

FOR THE TOWN OF

BENTON,
NEW HAMPSHIRE



Year Ending December 31

1981

TOWN OF BENTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Annual Report

OF THE TOWN OFFICERS

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1981

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BENTON TOWN OFFICERS — 1981

Moderator:

John G. Elliott, Jr. — Term Expires 1982

Town Clerk: Marjorie L. Robitzer

Deputy Clerk: Patricia Driscoll

Selectmen:

James J. Page	Term Expires 1982
James R. White	Term Expires 1983
William J. Harris, Chairman	Term Expires 1984

Treasurer: Priscilla T. Boutin

Tax Collector: Maxine M. Tyler

Deputy Collector: Marjorie L. Robitzer

Constable: Roy F. Irwin — **Dog Officer:** Scott E. Roden

Auditor: Matthew G. Flynn — **Sexton:** David W. Harris

Surveyor of Wood and Lumber: William J. Harris

Health Officer: Seraphene R. Harris

Supervisors of the Checklist:

Laura E. Mason, Chairman	Term Expires 1982
Jeannette C. Enderson (Resigned)	
Catherine L. Elliott	Term Expires 1982
John G. Elliott, Sr. (Resigned)	
Dorothy I. Elliott	Term Expires 1982

Ballot Clerk: Iona V. Boutin

Ballot Inspector: Katie J. Goodwin

Trustees of Trust Funds:

Joseph N. Boutin, Sr.	Term Expires 1982
David W. Harris	Term Expires 1983
Scott E. Roden	Term Expires 1984

Community Building Committee:

Seraphene R. Harris, Chairman

Iona V. Boutin — Laura E. Mason

Planning Board:

John G. Elliott, Jr., Chairman	Term Expires 1982
John T. Connell, Secretary	Term Expires 1983
Roy F. Irwin	Term Expires 1984
Thomas C. Dyer	Term Expires 1985
James J. Page, ex officio	Term Expires 1982

Board of Adjustment:

Scott E. Roden	Term Expires 1982
Wayne R. Klingler, Chairman (Resigned)	Term Expires 1983
Richard E. Saffo	Term Expires 1984
Priscilla T. Boutin, Secretary	Term Expires 1985
Roy F. Irwin	Term Expires 1986

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
State of New Hampshire

To the inhabitants of the Town of Benton qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Community Building in said Benton on the second Tuesday of March next (the 9th) at seven o'clock in the evening to vote and act upon the follow subjects:

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator for a term of two years; Town Clerk; one Selectman for a term of one year and one Selectman for a term of three years; Treasurer; Tax Collector; Auditor; Sexton; Constable; Dog Officer; one Trustee of Trust Funds for a term of one year and one Trustee for a term of three years; three Supervisors of the Checklist for terms of two, four and six years respectively; one member of the Board of Adjustment for a term of one year and one member for a term of five years; and all other necessary Town officers and agents.

ARTICLE 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of $176.77 as the Town's share for construction of highways (Town Road Aid) as provided by Chapter 241, Section 2 of the Revised Statutes Annotated, as amended.

ARTICLE 3. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and authorize withdrawal from the Revenue Sharing Fund for use as setoffs against budget appropriations in the amounts indicated; and, further to authorize the Selectmen to make pro-rata reductions in the amounts if estimated entitlements are reduced or take any other action hereon.

Appropriation	**Amount**
Ambulance Service	$ 100.00
Home Health Service	400.00
Mental Health Service	350.00
Cottage Hospital	500.00
Town Buildings' Expense	150.00
	$ 1,500.00

ARTICLE 4. To see if the Town will vote to become an associate member of the Twin State Mutual Aid Association for fire protection at a cost of $1,000.00 per year; if this membership is approved, to see if the Town will authorize the Selectmen to enter into a contract with the Town of Haverhill for fire coverage by the three fire companies in that town at a cost of $2,000.00 per year.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the Town will vote to make any alterations in the amount of money to be raised and appropriated for the ensuing year for support of the Town as recommended in the budget, to raise and appropriate all sums so determined for said purposes, and to pass any other vote relating thereto.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the Town will vote to accept the reports of officers and agents as printed in the town report.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to borrow money for current indebtedness in anticipation of taxes collected in the year 1982 and to be paid therefrom.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to administer or sell any real estate acquired through tax collector's deeds.

ARTICLE 9. To see if the Town will vote to authorize a discount on current property taxes paid before a date set by the Selectmen if all previous taxes are paid, and will set the amount of said discount.

Given under our hands and seal at Benton this 22nd day of February 1982.

WILLIAM J. HARRIS
JAMES J. PAGE
JAMES R. WHITE
Selectmen of Benton

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES
FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1981

Title of Appropriation:	Amount	Receipts and Reimbursements	Expenditures	Unexpended Balance	Overdraft
Town Officers' Salaries	$ 1,200.00	$	$ 1,141.80	$ 58.20	$
Town Officers' Expenses	2,000.00		1,727.21	272.79	
Election and Registration	300.00		621.20		321.20
Town Buildings' Expense	1,200.00		1,425.94		225.94
Police Department	200.00		200.00		
Fire Department			5,883.50		5,883.50
Planning	200.00	7.50[1]	192.00	15.50	
Insurance	1,500.00		1,466.25	33.75	
Health Department	1,200.00		5,415.20		4,215.20
Solid Waste Disposal	1,183.00		1,164.83	18.37	
Town Road Aid	178.00		177.63	.37	
Town Road Maintenance					
Summer	4,000.00		3,727.70	272.30	
Winter	4,000.00		6,919.37		2,919.37
Highway Subsidy—New	1,708.00		1,402.00	306.00	
Town Poor			514.63		514.63
Cemeteries	250.00		191.35	58.65	
Interest on Temporary Loans	100.00		141.18		41.18
	$19,219.00	$ 7.50	$32,311.59	$ 1,035.93	$14,121.02
					—1,035.93
				NET OVERDRAFT	$13,085.09

[1]Subdivision Costs

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF BENTON

Estimates of Revenue for the Year 1982
Compared with Actual Revenue for the Year 1981

SOURCES OF REVENUE	1981 Budget	1981 Actual	1982 Estimated
From Local Taxes:			
Resident Tax	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,260.00	$ 1,200.00
Yield Tax	3,842.00	2,751.88	3,000.00
Tax Interest and Costs	1,000.00	1,766.91	1,500.00
Resident Tax Penalties	25.00	24.00	25.00
Inventory Penalties	100.00		
From State Sources:			
Meals and Rooms Tax	1,596.00	1,595.90	1,600.00
Interest and Dividends Tax	3,130.00	3,130.27	3,100.00
Savings Bank Tax	64.00	64.13	65.00
Highway Subsidy-Regular	1,578.00	1,590.53	1,557.28
Highway Subsidy-New	1,707.00	1,692.38	1,691.17
Highway Maintenance Allotment			949.84
National Forest Reserve (½)	4,000.00	4,602.03	4,600.00
Reimbursement a/c State and Federal Forest Lands-1980		10,540.74	
1981	8,325.00		3,139.16
N.H. Crime Commission		729.00	
Reimbursement a/c Business Profits Tax	6,415.00	6,415.32	6,750.00
From Federal Sources:			
Federally-owned Entitlement Lands	8,063.00	8,063.00	8,000.00
From Local Sources Except Taxes:			
Motor Vehicle Permits	4,000.00	6,032.00	5,000.00
Dog Licenses and Fines	350.00	574.50	500.00
Permits and Fees	25.00	13.50	25.00
Interest on Deposits	600.00	843.36	250.00
Income from Trust Funds	293.00	293.19	300.00
Surplus:	2,000.00		
Receipts Other than Current Revenue:			
Revenue Sharing	1,050.00	1,000.00	1,500.00
TOTAL REVENUES FROM ALL SOURCES EXCEPT PROPERTY TAXES	$ 49,363.00	$ 52,982.64	$ 44,752.45
Amount to be Raised by Property Taxes:	45,348.01	30,792.11	71,702.64
TOTAL REVENUES	$ 94,711.01	$ 83,774.75	$116,455.09

BUDGET OF THE TOWN OF BENTON
Estimates of Expenditures for the Year 1982
Compared with Actual Expenditures for the Year 1981

PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE	1981 Budget	1981 Actual	1982 Estimated
Current Maintenance Expenses:			
Town Officers' Salaries	$ 1,200.00	$ 1,141.80	$ 1,200.00
Town Officers' Expenses	2,000.00	1,727.71	2,000.00
Election and Registration	300.00	621.20	900.00
Town Buildings' Expenses	1,200.00	1,425.94	1,500.00*
Police Department	200.00	200.00	200.00
Fire Department		5,883.50	6,875.00
Planning	200.00	192.00	250.00
Insurance	1,500.00	1,466.25	1,500.00
Health Department			
Ambulance Service	100.00*	100.00*	100.00*
Home Health Service	300.00*	250.00*	400.00*
Cottage Hospital	500.00*	450.00*	500.00*
Mental Health	300.00*	250.00*	350.00*
Court-ordered Juvenile Placement		4,365.20	1,150.00
Solid Waste Disposal	1,183.00	1,164.63	1,290.00
Town Road Aid	178.00	177.63	176.77
Town Road Maintenance			
Summer	4,000.00	3,727.70	4,000.00
Winter	4,000.00	6,919.37	5,000.00
Highway Construction—New Subsidy	1,708.00	1,402.00	1,691.17
Town Poor		514.63	
Cemeteries	250.00	191.35	250.00
Debt Service:			
Interest on Temporary Loans	100.00	141.18	500.00
Capital Outlay:			
Tax Map		352.00	350.00
TOTAL TOWN EXPENDITURES	$ 19,219.00	$ 32,664.09	$ 30,182.94
School Appropriation:	67,258.40	71,906.27	79,772.15
County Assessment:	6,437.00	6,437.00	6,500.00
	$ 92,914.40	$111,007.36	$116,455.09

SUMMARY INVENTORY OF VALUATION

Description of Property:	1981	1980
Land	$ 673,410.00	$ 672,620.00
Buildings	857,710.00	847,570.00
Public Utilities—Electric	22,040.00	21,520.00
Personal Property—Mobile Homes	18,330.00	19,960.00
	$1,571,490.00	$1,561,670.00
Exemptions—Elderly	– 17,560.00	– 17,980.00
NET VALUATION ON WHICH TAX RATE IS COMPUTED	$1,553,930.00	$1,543,690.00

STATEMENT OF ASSESSED TAXES

	1981	1980
Total Appropriation:		
Net Town Appropriation	$ (23,729.00)	$ (12,488.00)
Net School Appropriation	67,258.40	81,763.70
County Tax Assessment	6,437.00	7,479.00
	$ 49,966.40	$ 76,754.70
Reimbursement a/c Business Profits Tax:	– 6,415.32	– 4,879.00
	$ 43,551.08	$ 71,875.70
War Service Credits:	1,250.00	1,250.00
Overlay:	1,662.00	1,743.27
Inventory Penalties:	100.00	90.00
	$ 46,563.08	$ 74,948.97
Less: War Service Credits:	– 1,214.59	– 1,242.68
TOTAL TAX COMMITMENT	$ 45,348.49	$ 73,716.29
Tax Rate/$100 Valuation	$ 2.99	$ 4.85

BALANCE SHEET
December 31, 1981

ASSETS

Cash in Hands of Treasurer:		
Checking Account	$33,992.39	
Savings Account	36.01	
Yield Tax Deposits	1,887.30	
Revenue Sharing Account	67.42	$35,973.12
Accounts Due Town From State:		
Town Road Aid—1980	$ 1,376.16	
1981	1,361.85	
Reimbursement a/c State and Federal Forest Lands—1981	3,139.16	5,877.17
Unredeemed Taxes:		
Levy of 1980	$ 7,316.72	
Levy of 1979	4,364.62	11,681.34
Uncollected Taxes:		
Levy of 1981	$15,062.78	
Levy of 1980	76.50	15,139.28
TOTAL ASSETS		$68,670.91
Current Deficit:		20,640.50
		$89,311.41

LIABILITIES

Accounts Owed by Town:		
Yield Tax Deposits	$ 1,877.30	
Unexpended Revenue Sharing Funds	67.42	$ 1,944.72
Unexpended Balance, Tax Map Appropriation		148.00
Unexpended Highway Subsidy Funds—1980	$ 317.05	
1981	1,692.38	2,009.43
Due State: Dog License Fees Collected		51.00
Due School District: 1980-81	$10,559.81	
1981-82	67,258.40	
½ 1981 National Forest Reserve	4,602.04	82,420.25
Total Accounts Owed by Town:		$86,573.40
State and Town Joint Highway Construction Accounts:		
Unexpended Balance in State Treasury		$ 2,738.01
TOTAL LIABILITIES		$89,311.41

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
SUMMARY OF PROPERTY, RESIDENT AND YIELD TAXES

DEBITS

	Levy of 1981	Levy of 1980	Prior
Uncollected Taxes —Beginning of Fiscal Year:			
Property Taxes	$	$25,484.32	$
Resident Taxes		280.00	10.00
Yield Taxes		66.50	
Taxes Committed to Collector:			
Property Taxes	45,348.01		
Resident Taxes	1,210.00		
Yield Taxes	3,842.14		
Added Taxes:			
Resident Taxes	70.00		
Overpayments:			
a/c Property Taxes		7.00	
Interest Collected on Delinquent Property Taxes:	16.32	1,282.16	
Penalties Collected on Resident Taxes	3.00	21.00	
TOTAL DEBITS	$50,489.47	$27,140.98	$ 10.00

CREDITS

Remittances to Treasurer: During Fiscal Year:			
Property Taxes	$30,792.11	$25,491.32	$
Resident Taxes	1,050.00	210.00	
Yield Taxes	2,735.33		
Interest Collected During Year	16.32	1,282.16	
Penalties on Resident Taxes	3.00	21.00	

Abatements Made During Year:			
Discounts Allowed;	830.51		
Resident Taxes		60.00	10.00
Uncollected Taxes— End of Fiscal Year: (As Per Collector's List)			
Property Taxes	13,725.39		
Resident Taxes	230.00	10.00	
Yield Taxes	1,106.81	66.50	
TOTAL CREDITS	$50,489.47	$27,140.98	$ 10.00

SUMMARY OF TAX SALES ACCOUNTS
Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 1981

DEBITS

	Tax Sales on Account of Levies of:		
	1980	1979	1978
Balance of Unredeemed Taxes Beginning Fiscal Year:	$	$4,812.90	$1,111.55
Taxes Sold to Town During Current Fiscal Year**	8,447.22		
Interest Collected After Sale	12.55	39.94	240.65
Redemption Costs	133.72	37.34	20.78
TOTAL DEBITS	$8,593.49	$4,890.18	$1,372.98

CREDITS

Remittances to Treasurer During Year:			
Redemptions	$1,130.50	$ 448.28	$1,111.55
Interest and Costs After Sale	146.27	77.28	261.43
Unredeemed Taxes—End of Fiscal Year	7,316.72	4,364.62	
TOTAL CREDITS	$8,593.49	$4,890.18	$1,372.98

* These sums represent the total of Unredeemed Taxes, as of January 1, 1981 from Tax Sales held in **Previous** Fiscal Years.

** Amount of Tax Sale(s) held during current fiscal year, including total amount of taxes, interest and costs to date of sale(s).

TAX COLLECTOR'S UNCOLLECTED TAXES
As of December 31, 1981

Name	Property	Resident	Yield
Levy of 1980			
Chicoine, Penny Sue	$	$ 10.00	$
Downing, Robert E.			66.50
Levy of 1981			
Aldrich, Jacob W. & Jacqueline J.	485.82		
Basnar, Barbara	110.63		
Basnar, Reginald H. & Barbara	36.18		
Beauchemin, Robert E., Jr.	65.61		
Belyea, Juanita J.		10.00	
Bierig, Robert W. & Sandra T.	89.24		
Bolton, Jeffry M. & Nancy E.	375.84		
Boutin, Albert J., Sr. & Mabel E.	340.56		14.70
Boutin, Albert J., Jr. & Paula	23.92		
Boutin, Darrell		10.00	
Boutin, John, Sr.	1.79		46.78
Boutin, John, Jr.			93.17
Boutin, David & Melinda C.	188.07	20.00	
Boutin, Robin		10.00	
Boutin, Ronald G. & April R.	229.27		
Bruce, Edna		10.00	
Chamberlin, Richard G. & June M.	19.07		
Clark, Charles V., Jr. & Christina M.	133.65		
*Clark, Forrest S.	141.73		
Cote, Ronald E.	44.25		
Decocq, Alfred & Paula	237.41		
Drew, Sharon	66.38		
Drew, Stanley L., Jr., & Wilma Jean	139.33		
Driscoll, Diane M.		10.00	
Driscoll, Thomas W.		10.00	
Earle, Jack E. & Frances A.	174.32		
Elliott, Benjamin, Sr.	56.81		
Elliott, Bruce A.	219.17		
Elliott, Daniel R. & Laurie S.	55.02		
Elliott, James W. & Margaret D.	389.53	20.00	
Elliott, James W., Jr.	157.27		
Elliott, John G., Jr. & Catherine L.	447.54		
Fenn, Edward & Diane	77.44		
Fenn, Francis W.	266.11		
Fenn, Thomas F.	1,072.81		
Fernald, Robert & Amy	29.60		
Fournier, Arthur J. & Ethel M.	218.57		
Germain, Frederick J. & Virginia	339.37		
Girard, Raymond	55.02		
Goldberg, Richard	12.99		
Guyette, Nancy L. & Richard E.	77.14		
Hansen, Joel W.	118.70		
Hansen, Joel W. & Brendylyn C. Graziano	45.75		

Harris, John J. & Alice M.	113.92		
Harris, Michael E. & Helena L.	34.68	20.00	
*Harris, William J. & Seraphene R.	725.31		20.46
Higgins, David A. & Joan C.	166.68		
Irwin, Roy F. & Judith A.	362.99		
Jackson, Lee & Cindy		20.00	
Klingler, Wayne R. & Barbara A.	396.18		
Knapp, Dexter	87.91		
Lockwood, Harold S.	324.12		
Lockwood, Edward		10.00	
Lockwood, Keith		10.00	
Lorden, Michael J. & Timothy J.	367.60		
Mason, Lloyd & Laura E.	71.99	20.00	
Mayo, Joseph & Judith A.	92.09		
Morrill, James W.	52.03		
Murphy, Sue	52.03		
Nickles, Raymond C. & Elizabeth P.	473.62		
Noble, Robert L. & Helen	164.15		
Page, Ridler W.	158.17		
Palmer, Corliss	17.94		
Plant, James A., et al	271.49		
Picillo, Julie Ann		10.00	
Poirier, Robert J. & Doris M.	267.90		
Reed, Donald F. & Lois A.	52.46		
Rodman, Richard L. & Anne L.	631.49		
Saffo, Richard E. & Stephanie C.	878.39		
Shepard, Kathleen M.	31.10		
Smith, William F. & Denise H.	55.02		
Smith, William S.	61.43		
Talford, Benjamin F.	399.46		
Thompson, Peter A. & Kimberly L.S.	297.51	10.00	
T & P Contractors			932.30
Vittum, Paul W. & Judith A.	217.97	20.00	
White, James R. & Doreen J.	357.84	10.00	
Totals	$13,725.37	$ 240.00	$ 1,173.91

*Paid after 12/31/81

I hereby certify that the above list showing the name and amount due from each delinquent taxpayer as of December 31, 1981, on account of the tax levy of 1980 and 1981, is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

MAXINE M. TYLER
Tax Collector

TREASURER'S REPORT AND DETAILED SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS

From Tax Collector:		
Levy of 1978		
Tax Sale Redemptions	$ 1,111.55	
Redemption Interest and Costs	261.43	$ 1,372.98
Levy of 1979		
Tax Sale Redemptions	$ 448.28	
Redemption Interest and Costs	77.28	
Resident Tax Abatement	10.00	535.56
Levy of 1980		
Tax Sale Redemptions	$ 1,130.50	
Redemption Interest and Costs	21.26	
Redemption Overpayment	10.00	
Property Tax	25,484.32	
Property Tax Interest	1,390.62	
Property Tax Overpayment	7.00	
Resident Tax	210.00	
Resident Tax Penalties	21.00	
Resident Tax Abatements	60.00	
Yield Tax	16.55	28,351.25
Levy of 1981		
Property Tax	$30,792.11	
Property Tax Interest	7.73	
Resident Tax	1,050.00	
Resident Tax Penalties	3.00	
Yield Tax	2,735.33	
Yield Tax Interest	8.59	34,596.76
From Town Clerk:		
Motor Vehicle Permits	$ 6,032.00	
Dog Licenses	536.50	
Dog Fines and Late Fees	38.00	6,606.50
From Selectmen:		
Current Use Applications		$ 6.00
From Planning Board:		
Subdivision Costs		7.50
From Trust Funds:		
For Highways	$ 92.89	
For Cemeteries	200.30	293.19

From Deposits:	**Amount**	**Interest**	
Repurchase Agreement	$10,000.00	$ 181.63	
Savings Account	19,656.00	483.13	
Yield Tax Account	2,377.72	178.60	
Revenue Sharing Account	1,000.00		
	$33,033.72	$ 843.60	33,877.08
From Tax Anticipation Note:			
Indian Head North			3,000.00
From Federal Sources:			
Federally-owned Entitlement Lands			8,063.00
From State Sources:			
Meals and Rooms Tax		$ 1,595.90	
Interest and Dividends Tax		3,130.27	
Savings Bank Tax		64.13	
Reimbursement a/c Business Profits Tax		6,415.32	
Highway Subsidy—Regular		1,590.53	
Highway Subsidy—New		1,692.38	
Reimbursement a/c State and Federal Forest Lands		10,540.74	
National Forest Reserve		9,204.07	
New Hampshire Crime Commission		729.00	34,962.34
TOTAL RECEIPTS			$151,672.16
Balance on Hand 1/1/81			22,579.72
			$174,269.88
Less: Selectmen's Orders			—140,552.12
			$ 33,717.76
Payment Stopped—1980 Checks			295.63
			$ 34,013.39
Debit Memo—1980 USF Check			—21.00
Balance in Checking Account 12/31/81			$ 33,992.39

TREASURER'S REPORT

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

Revenue Sharing Funds:		
Balance on Hand 1/1/81	$ 2.05	
Receipts	1,034.00	
Interest Added	31.37	$ 1,067.42
Funds Withdrawn		—1,000.00
Balance on Hand 12/31/81		$ 67.42
Yield Tax Account:		
Balance on Hand 1/1/81	$ 2,646.60	
Receipts	1,643.42	
Interest Added	143.60	$ 4,433.62
Deposits Withdrawn	$ 2,377.72	
Interest Withdrawn	178.60	—2,556.32
Balance on Hand 12/31/81		$ 1,877.30
Savings Account:		
Balance on Hand 1/1/81	$19,656.00	
Interest Added	519.14	$20,175.14
Funds Withdrawn		—20,139.13
Balance on Hand 12/31/81		$ 36.01

Respectfully submitted,
PRISCILLA T. BOUTIN
Treasurer

DETAILED STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS

Town Officers' Salaries:			
William J. Harris, Selectman		$ 200.00	
James J. Page, Selectman		200.00	
James R. White, Selectman		150.00	
Marjorie L. Robitzer, Town Clerk		150.00	
Prisciila T. Boutin, Treasurer		200.00	
Maxine M. Tyler, Tax Collector		200.00	
David W. Harris, Trustee of Trust Funds		26.80	
Robert E. Longpre, Auditor		15.00	$ 1,141.80
Town Officers' Expenses:			
Town Reports, Courier Printing Co.		$ 677.00	
Dues: N.H. Municipal Association	$300.00		
Officer Associations	59.00	359.00	
Postage		241.59	
Officers' Bonds		180.25	
Supplies		121.67	
Fees		81.00	
Register of Deeds		30.45	
Mileage		19.00	
Telephone		9.75	
Safe Deposit Box		8.00	1,727.71
Election and Registration:			
John G. Elliott, Jr., Moderator		$ 53.60	
Marjorie L. Robitzer, Town Clerk		53.60	
William J. Harris, Selectman		53.60	
James R. White, Selectman		53.60	
James J. Page, Selectman		26.80	
Laura E. Mason, Supervisor		123.00	
John G. Elliott, Sr., Supervisor		56.00	
Jeanette C. Enderson, Supervisor		26.80	
Catherine L. Elliott, Supervisor		67.00	
Dorothy I. Elliott, Supervisor		53.60	
Iona V. Boutin, Ballot Clerk		26.80	
Katie J. Goodwin, Ballot Inspector		26.80	621.20
Town Buildings' Expense:			
Fuel: Bradford Oil Co.		$ 1,248.14	
Electric: N.H. Electric Cooperative		171.07	
Repairs		6.73	1,425.94
Police Department:			
Roy F. Irwin, Constable			$ 200.00

Fire Department:			
Higgins Fire: North Haverhill		$ 530.00	
Clark Fire: North Haverhill	$ 2,265.00		
Woodsville	1,376.00		
Haverhill Corner	1,400.00		
Piermont	312.50	5,353.50	5,883.50
Planning:			
North Country Council			$ 192.00
Insurance:			
Franconia Insurance Agency			
Liability		$ 574.00	
Community Building		418.25	
Workmen's Compensation		474.00	1,466.25
Health Department:			
North Country Home Health Agency		$ 250.00	
White Mountain Mental Health		250.00	
Cottage Hospital		450.00	
Cottage Hospital Ambulance Service		100.00	
Court-ordered Juvenile Placement		4,365.20	5,415.20
Solid Waste Disposal:			
Leete-Powers Landfill			1,164.63
Town Road Aid:			
Appropriation			177.63
Town Road Maintenance: Summer:			
Elliott & Sons Construction		$ 3,119.30	
Cold Patch		348.30	
Gravel		197.60	
Mowing		62.50	3,727.70
Town Road Maintenance: Winter:			
Elliott & Sons Construction		$ 6,208.25	
Salt		374.49	
Chloride		131.89	
Equipment Hire		120.00	
Plastic		71.00	
Gas for Culvert Thawing		13.74	6,919.37
Highway Construction — New Subsidy:			
Elliott & Sons Construction		$ 1,298.00	
Gravel		104.00	1,402.00
Town Poor:			
Assistance by Grafton County			514.63

Cemeteries:		
David W. Harris, Sexton	$ 177.35	
Flowers: Haverhill Gardens	14.00	191.35
Tax Map:		
William S. Smith, Drafting		352.00
Abatements and Overpayments		
Abatements	$ 73.65	
Overpayments	7.60	81.25
Tax Redemptions:		
Robert E. Longpre		1,530.43
Taxes Bought by Town:		8,457.22
Yield Tax Deposits:		2,377.72
Payments for Repurchase Agreements:		
Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank		10,000.00
Tax Anticipation Note:		
Indian Head North: Note	$ 3,000.00	
Interest	141.18	3,141.18
Payments To State:		
Dog License Fees		28.50
Payments to County:		
Assessment		6,437.00
Payments to School District:		
Appropriation	$71,906.27	
1980 National Forest Reserve (one half)	4,069.64	75,975.91
TOTAL PAYMENTS		$140,552.12

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK

Report of funds received by me and paid over to the Treasurer or Tax Collector during the fiscal year ending December 31, 1981.

Motor Vehicle Permits:		
Permits — 212	$ 6,216.50	
Less: Fees Retained	—184.50	$ 6,032.00
Dog Licenses:		
Licenses — 69	$ 570.75	
Less: Fees Retained	— 34.25	
	536.50	
Late Charges and Fines	38.00	574.50
Resident Taxes:		
Collected	$ 580.00	
Penalties	11.00	591.00
TOTAL PAYMENTS		$ 7,197.50

Respectfully submitted,
MARJORIE L. ROBITZER
Town Clerk and Deputy Collector

TOWN AUDITOR'S REPORT

I have examined the accounts of the Tax Collector, Town Treasurer, Town Clerk, Trustees of Trust Funds, and Selectmen and find them fairly stated.

Respectfully submitted,
MATTHEW G. FLYNN
Auditor

February 16, 1982

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS
For the Year Ending Dec. 31, 1981

There are in the custody of the Trustees the following Trust Funds bequeathed to the town of Benton. The income received during the year is distributed as specified by the donors of the funds.

		Distribution of Income		
Name of Fund	**Amount**	**Cemetery**	**School**	**Highway**
Ira Whitcher	$ 500.00	$ 40.20		
Whitcher & Mann	500.00	20.10	10.05	10.05
Whitcher & Mann	1,000.00	40.25	20.13	20.13
Whitcher & Mann	1,750.00		65.02	
Whitcher & Mann	1,750.00			65.02
J.C. Speed	132.11	10.62		
Whitcher & Kendall	189.69	15.24		
Geo. H. Clark	190.27	15.28		
Ella Mann	50.00	4.02		
Kendrick Howe	50.00	4.02		
Wm. T. Torsey	45.46	3.65		
Sam'l Annis	45.46	3.65		
Jonithan Davis	45.46	3.65		
Isabella Tyler	50.00	4.02		
D.M. & K.L. Howe	100.00	8.03		
Ira Whitcher	13.19	1.06		
M. & L. McKean	100.00	8.03		
Vevah Leonard	250.00	13.54		
Library Fund	190.99		10.34	
L.H. Parker	200.00	—Field Not Rented —		
TOTAL	$7,152.63	$195.36	$105.54	$95.20

The above funds are deposited in savings accounts or IC's or invested in government bonds which are stored in a safe deposit box at the Indian Head Bank North (Lisbon Branch) at Lisbon, N.H.

Respectfully submitted:
DAVID HARRIS
JOSEPH BOUTIN
SCOTT RODEN
Trustees of Trust Funds

COMMUNITY BUILDING REPORT

The Selectmen and Planning Board are still meeting once a month.

We would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Robitzer and William J. Harris for painting our Community Building.

Balance on Hand 1/1/81		$ 177.35
Receipts:		
Dinners	$ 300.00	
Rent	10.00	
		310.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS		$ 487.35
Expenses:		
Food	$ 140.00	
Paint	33.00	
Christmas Party	175.00	
Supplies	20.35	
		—368.35
Balance on Hand 12/31/81		$ 119.00

SERAPHENE R. HARRIS, Chairman
Community Building Committee

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

BENTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1981

DISTRICT OFFICERS

SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Edward Matz, Chairman	Term Expires 1984
Mrs. Priscilla Boutin	Term Expires 1982
Mrs. Jeannette Enderson	Term Expires 1983

Other District Officers

Mr. James Page	Moderator
Mrs. Maxine Tyler	Treasurer
Mrs. Iona Boutin	Auditor
Mrs. Jean Longpre	Clerk
Mr. Roy Irwin	Truant Officer
Mr. Norman H. Mullen	Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Harold J. Haskins	Assistant Superintendent of Schools

TOWN OF BENTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ANNUAL SCHOOL MEETING
March 10, 1981

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 P.M. by the Moderator, Mr. James J. Page. A five minute recess was then called in order to swear in town officers newly elected at the annual town meeting. The School Meeting resumed and the School Warrant was read by Mr. Page and the following action was then taken on the articles in the warrant.

Article 1. James J. Page was nominated for the office of Moderator for the coming year. The motion was seconded and the clerk cast one ballot.

Article 2. Jean T. Longpre was nominated for the office of Clerk for the ensuing year. The motion was seconded and the Moderator cast one ballot.

Article 3. Edward Matz was nominated for the position of Member of the School Board for a term of three (3) years. The motion was seconded and the Moderator cast one ballot.

Article 4. Maxine Tyler was nominated for the office of Treasurer for the ensuing year. The motion was seconded and the Moderator cast one ballot.

Article 5. Arland Robitzer inquired as to the salaries of the various school district officers. Priscilla Boutin explained that the Chairperson of the School Board received $75.00, the other two Board members received $50.00 each and the Treasurer also received $50.00. A motion was then made that Article 5. be approved. The motion was seconded and the vote was in the affirmative.

Article 6. Priscilla Boutin stated that Mr. Clough, the school bus driver, had reported several instances of destructive action involving lighting matches on the bus and cutting up seats. The consequences were discussed and Mr. Harold Haskins, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, said that, in his opinion, he didn't think that Mr. Clough could refuse to take kids.
Jacob Aldrich stated that the system of changing buses at the Morrill School in Haverhill also resulted in discipline problems as children crossed the road and went into Ames Department Store. Mr. Aldrich explained that the waiting time for the second bus allowed time for trouble. Mr. Haskins said that he would take note of this.

Article 7. Iona Boutin was nominated for the office of School Auditor for the ensuing year. The motion was seconded and the Moderator cast one ballot.

Article 8. The Moderator reread the appropriation article to the assembly. Jacob Aldrich then moved "that Benton turn down the school budget as proposed in the warrant and that we petition the State Board of Education to investigate the relationship between the town of Benton and the Haverhill Cooperative School System". Mr. Aldrich then said that the town has always been told that we have to accept the budget and that we can do nothing about it. He further stated that nobody knows our responsibilities to the Haverhill Cooperative nor their respon-

sibilities toward us. Mr. Aldrich said that he had attended, along with some others, a budget meeting at the Haverhill Cooperative and had received no attention and gotten the same old story — we can't do anything. Mr. Aldrich further criticised Mr. Mullen, the Superintendent, for not attending Benton meetings and leaving Mr. Haskins to "take the brunt of it".

Mr. Haskins then assured Mr. Aldrich that it had been no intention on the part of the Haverhill Board to downgrade the Benton delegation who came to the meeting. He further explained that the Supervisory Union is a state function. Benton is a tuition town.

Edward Matz asked whether Benton could become a member of the cooperative and Mr. Haskins explained that the town had several options. Mr. Matz then said that Benton had no voice and Mr. Haskins explained that as a tuition town we can send our children to the cooperative but we have no voting rights. There then followed further discussions about the lack of interest in Benton on the part of the Haverhill Cooperative at the budget meeting by Mr. Matz. Mr. Haskins said that they tried to keep the tuition rates fair and said further "We are interested in good education and we think we do a good job with your kids".

Mr. Robitzer then explained that Benton was talking about escalating school costs, that the administration always seemed to be asking for more money. Several speakers then protested administration raises in the budget.

Mr. Robitzer asked about enrollments in Benton and Mr. Haskins explained that enrollments are in the process of dropping, as they are all over the country and that this is making a reduction in forces. Mr. Robitzer asked what function does the Benton School Board have and was told its function was in the realm of transportation and problems with children.

Jeannette Enderson, member of the School Board, explained that in 1963 the Board had discussed joining the cooperative union at a meeting, and James Page explained that at the time of the organization of the original cooperative the cost of bonding had been a problem for Benton. James White then asked what would happen to the kids in Benton if the town rejects the budget. Jacob Aldrich then spoke and said that things would go on as usual until June and this would give the town time to discuss and investigate the problem.

Mr. Aldrich then brought up the problem of "mistresses" in town and asked whether the town was responsible for the tuition of children of mistresses. Mr. Aldrich explained that he felt that the town where they came from should be billed. Mr. Haskins explained that, if a child lives in the school district with a parent, the school district has the responsibility to educate the child. He said it was a difficult proposition.

Robert Longpre then asked Mr. Haskins what joining the cooperative would involve in percentage costs of back expenses and Mr. Haskins said he was not sure.

Jeannette Enderson then asked if the article could be postponed until the town had an opportunity to study the matter.

James Page pointed out that it could be but a decision would have to be made as the State says we have to send our kids to school.

John Connell then asked what alternatives we would have and Jacob Aldrich explained that we could form our own school, tuition to different schools or join the cooperative. We could investigate and see.

The question of liability was brought up and Mr. Haskins explained that there was tuition liability through the 12th grade unless a child dropped out at age 16. If a child wanted to continue his education through the 12th grade, he could go until the age of 21. This applied if there was no high school in your own school district. Mr. Matz questioned this and said that he had information from Concord that showed the state mandate was grade 8 and age 16. At this point Maxine Tyler said that she wanted to second Jacob Aldrich's motion and James White suggested that we put the whole article "on hold". and act on Article 8. at a later date.

Robert Longpre then moved the question. A voice vote was taken on the motion and a majority voted in the affirmative and the motion carried.

Jacob Aldrich then made a motion to recess without time or date and that the School Board be authorized to set the time and date of the new meeting. The motion was seconded and was passed by a voice vote.

Jean T. Longpre
Clerk

1981 SCHOOL MEETING ★ Reconvened ★ April 23, 1981, 7:30 PM

The reconvened school meeting was opened by the Moderator, Mr. James Page, at 7:30 PM. Other Town officers in attendance were Mr. William Harris, Selectman, Mrs. Pricilla Boutin, School Director, Mr. Edward Matz, School Director, and about 25 Townspeople with Marjorie Robitzer as Secretary Pro Tem in the absence of Mrs. Jean Longpre.

Mr. Page stated that the previous meeting was left at ARTICLE 8, which he read and then asked Mr. Haskins of the Haverhill School District to speak on what had transpired in the interim. The adjusted budget was passed out and discussed. This showed that the contingency fund of $2000.00 had been eliminated and the new pupil count showed 5 less students, including 2 High School students, which resulted in the 1981-82 proposed budget being lowered from $93,565.40 to $82,930.15.

Jacob Aldrich asked Mr. Haskins what was done as to the motion to petition The State Dept. of Education to investigate the situation. Mr. Haskins stated that he had written to Concord, stating the motion and Benton's and Haverhill's position, but that he did not have a copy of this letter with him. He did have the letter from Concord which he read. This was a very comprehensive and lengthy letter which went into the alternatives for Benton. It stated that operating their own school was possible with these comparable figures cited.

Stark	$87,000	44 pupils
Washington	113,605	36 pupils
Stoddard	82,000	30 pupils
Errol	53,106	11 pupils

Benton pupils could be sent to another school district, if they would accept them since any school district has the right to accept or reject tuition pupils. Joining the Haverhill Co-op would be difficult as it would require a vote of the people of the Co-op District plus the reassessment of all Benton property by the Tax Assessors of the existing district in order to arrive at an equitable formula for all concerned. It would be too late to do anything of this order before the September '81 school session.

Mr. Matz asked what, if we decided to implement an alternative plan, would be the time needed. Mr. Haskins stated that this would be a lengthy procedure, ie. joining the co-op, but that sending pupils to another school would require no notice, very little time, setting up our own school would also take quite a while. Arland Robitzer asked whether there is a difference in cost for Woodsville pupils and tuition students. Mr. Haskins told us that although he did not know the difference for the up-coming year, he did remember the tuition figure for elementary pupils for this year — $1050.00 — our tuition figure for this period was 1075.00. Mr. Aldrich asked what is the increase per pupil for next year over this year and was told that it is 10%.

Mrs. Boutin asked whether Haverhill is cutting costs, or making efforts to do so. Mr. Haskins stated that enrollments are dropping and they had figured on cutting 3 teachers and the accompanying costs but that at the regular district meeting, which was well attended by teachers and their friends and supporters, they were unable to defeat a motion which added $40,000 to the budget. They still intend to further cut costs. Mr. Robitzer offered the opinion that since the Supervisory officials had voted raises for themselves, their timing undercut the impetus on proposed savings by the School Board.

Mr. Page at this point, asked what would be the action on the budget. Mr. Aldrich asked for an explanation of the $2,400 deficit in this year's budget and it was explained by Mrs. Boutin that this included a student tuition to Crotched Mt. School and an additional local tuition. Mr. Matz asked whether we could set all in motion to join the Co-op and then, based upon all these figures, drop out. Several people offered the opinion that, without a doubt, this cost would be quite a bit higher than we are now paying.

Mr. Matz then made a motion that we vote on ARTICLE 8, as revised. The motion was seconded and passed by a voice vote.

Mr. Aldrich stated that he still wants to see the original letter from Mr. Haskins to the State and wants further investigation about alternative possibilities.

The meeting was adjourned, as per a motion, which was seconded, at 8:30 PM.

Marjorie L. Robitzer
Sec., Pro Tem

SCHOOL WARRANT
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

To the Inhabitants of the School District in the Town of Benton qualified to vote in district affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Community Building in said district on the 9th day of March, 1982 at 8:30 o'clock in the afternoon to act upon the following subjects:

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator for the coming year.

ARTICLE 2. To choose a Clerk for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 3. To choose two Members of the School Board, one member for a term of three years, ending in 1985, and one member for a term of one year, ending in 1983.

ARTICLE 4. To choose a Treasurer for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 5. To determine and appoint the salaries of the School Board and Truant Officer and fix the compensation of other officers or agents of the district.

ARTICLE 6. To hear reports of Agents, Committees, or Officers chosen and pass any vote relating thereto.

ARTICLE 7. To choose Agents, Auditors, and Committees, in relation to any subject embraced in this Warrant.

ARTICLE 8. To see what sum of money the district will raise and appropriate for the support of schools, for the salaries of school district officials and agents and for the payment of statutory obligations of the district and to authorize the application against said appropriation of such sums as are estimated to be received from the state foundation aid fund together with other income; the school board to certify to the selectmen the balance between the estimated revenue and appropriation, which balance is to be raised by taxes by the town.

ARTICLE 9. To transact any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Given under our hands at said Benton this 16th day of February, 1982.

Edward Matz
Priscilla Boutin
SCHOOL BOARD OF BENTON

A True Copy of Warrant — Attest:

Edward Matz
Priscilla Boutin
SCHOOL BOARD OF BENTON

(This is a temporary Warrant. Articles may be added until February 16, 1982.)

BUDGET FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BENTON
1982-1983

Item Description	Adopted Budget 1981-82	Proposed Budget 1982-83
1000 INSTRUCTION		
1100 Regular Instruction		
561 Tuition	$70,056.00	$67,443.00
1200 Special Education		
561 Tuition		5,000.00
2000 SUPPORT SERVICES		
2300 General Administration		
870 Contingency fund	50.00	50.00
2311 School Board Services		
110 Salaries	175.00	175.00
530 Printing, Petty Cash	200.00	
2312 Clerk of Board Services		
110 Salaries	16.00	16.00
2313 Treasurer Services		
110 Salaries	50.00	50.00
2317 Audit Services		
110 Salaries	25.00	16.00
2321 Office of Superintendent Services		
351 S.A.U. #23 Management Services	1,358.15	1,450.09
2550 Pupil Transportation		
513 Contracted Services	11,000.00	11,000.00
870 Contingency		1,200.00
TOTAL	$82,930.15	$86,400.09

ESTIMATED INCOME FOR 1982-1983

Unreserved Fund Balance	10,559.81	
1000 Revenue from Local Sources		
1100 Taxes		
1120 Current Appropriation	67,258.40	79,772.15
1900 Other Revenues from Local Sources		
1920 Trust Fund Income	103.24	103.24
3000 Revenue from State Sources		
3100 Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid		
3120 Sweepstakes	913.38	913.38
3240 Handicapped Aid		1,516.00
4000 Revenue from Federal Sources		
4800 Revenue in Lieu of Taxes		
4810 Forest Reserve	4,095.32	4,095.32
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	$82,930.15	$86,400.09

SCHOOL DISTRICT BENTON

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 1981

BALANCE SHEET
June 30, 1981

ASSETS		
Current Assets		**General**
Account No.		
100	Cash	$ 974.22
120	Taxes Receivable	41,644.18
TOTAL ASSETS		$42,618.40
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY		
420	Other Payables	$30,958.59
430	Contracts Payable	1,100.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES		$32,058.59
Fund Equity		
770	Unreserved Fund Balance	10,559.81
TOTAL FUND EQUITY		$10,559.81
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY		$42,618.40

STATEMENT OF REVENUES
For the Fiscal Year
Ended June 30, 1981

Description	Account Number	
Revenue from Local Sources	1000	
Current Appropriation	1121	$81,763.70
Deficit Appropriation	1122	120.45
TOTAL TAXES		$81,884.15
Earnings on Investments	1500	103.24
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUE		$81,987.39
Revenue from State Sources	3000	
Unrestricted Grants-In-Aid		
Sweepstakes	3120	1,063.32
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED GRANTS-IN-AID		$ 1,063.32
Restricted Grants-In-Aid		
Vocational School Aid	3220	
Tuition	3221	3,032.00
TOTAL RESTRICTED GRANTS-IN-AID		$ 3,032.00
TOTAL REVENUE FROM STATE SOURCES		$ 4,095.32
Revenue from Federal Sources		
Unrestricted Grants-In-Aid from the Federal Government Through the State	4200	4,069.64
TOTAL REVENUE FROM FEDERAL SOURCES		$ 4,069.64
TOTAL REVENUE		$90,152.35

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES
For the Year Ended June 30, 1981

Function	Account Number	Elementary	Junior High	Senior High	Total
Regular Education Program	1100	$29,570.47	$14,785.24	$19,713.65	$64,069.36
Special Education Program	1200			2,882.00	2,882.00
General Administration 2300					
School Board	2310	295.50			295.50
S.A.U. Management Serv.	2320	1,376.13			1,376.13
Business 2500					
Pupil Transportation	2550	5,076.92	2,538.46	3,384.62	11,000.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES					**$79,622.99**

Supplementary Expenditure Information
For the Year Ended June 30, 1981

Description	Function	Object	Elem.	Jr. High	Sr. High	Total
S.A.U. Management Services	2320	351	1,376.13			1,376.13
Tuition to LEA's within N. H.	All	561	29,570.47	14,785.24	19,713.65	64,069.36
Tuition/LEA's outside N.H.	All	561			2,882.00	2,882.00

Statement of Analysis of Changes in Fund Equity
For The Year Ended June 30, 1981

Fund Equity, July 1, 1980	$ 30.45
Revenue	90,152.35
	$90,182.80
Deletions:	
Expenditures	79,622.99
Fund Equity, June 30, 1981	$10,559.81

RECONCILIATION OF REVENUE AND GROSS RECEIPTS WITH EXPENDITURES AND GROSS DISBURSEMENTS
For The Year Ended June 30, 1981

REVENUES

Total Revenue	$90,152.35
Deletions:	
Balances at June 30, 1981:	
Taxes Receivable	41,644.18
Total Gross Receipts	48,808.17
Cash and Investment Balance July 1, 1980	30.45
GRAND TOTAL	$48,538.62

EXPENDITURES

Total Expenditures		$79,622.99
Deletions:		
Balances at June 30, 1981:		
Other Payables	30,958.59	
Contracts Payable	1,100.00	
Total Deletions		32,058.59
Total Gross Disbursements		47,564.40
Cash and Investment Balance July 1, 1981		974.22
GRAND TOTAL		$48,538.62

ITEMIZATION OF RECEIVABLES: June 30, 1981

Balance Sheet Account Number	Date Received	Receivable Due From	Revenue Account Credited	Amount
120	7/16/81	Town Appropriation	1121	$41,644.18

ITEMIZATION OF PAYABLES: June 30, 1981

Balance Sheet Account Number	Date Paid	Vendor	Expenditure Account Charged	Amount
420	7/16/81	Haverhill Cooperative	1100	$30,949.84
430	7/16/81	Arthur Clough	2550	1,100.00
420	7/16/81	Postage	2310	8.75
				$32,058.59

REPORT OF SCHOOL DISTRICT TREASURER
Fiscal Year July 1, 1980 to June 30, 1981
School District of BENTON

SUMMARY

Cash on Hand July 1, 1980		$ 30.45
Received from Selectmen		
Current Appropriation	$ 40,119.52	
Deficit Appropriation	120.45	
Revenue From State Sources	4,095.32	
Revenue from Federal Sources	4,069.64	
Received as income from Trust Funds	103.24	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		$ 48,508.17
TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE FOR FISCAL YEAR		$ 48,538.62
LESS SCHOOL BOARD ORDERS PAID		47,564.40
BALANCE ON HAND JUNE 30, 1981		$ 974.22

August 4, 1981

Maxine Tyler
District Treasurer

AUDITOR'S CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that I have examined the books, vouchers, bank statements and other financial records of the treasurer of the school district of **Benton** of which the above is a true summary for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1981, and find them correct in all respects.

August 4, 1981

Iona V. Boutin

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

I herewith submit my seventeenth annual report to the voters of the Benton School District:

Education's critics are loud and persistent without any indication that their loud carping will abate in the future. In some cases they do have a basis for criticism; but, overall education generally, and more specifically in the North Country is lean and hard and functioning very well.

Last year's report dealt with the upcoming problems that were manifesting themselves at the local, state and national level. We did try, and were successful, to trim our staffs, supplies, equipment and other areas to meet the oncoming slashes from Concord and Washington.

At this writing some of the proposals listed for the special session in Concord include:

1. Reduction of the Business Profits Tax by 7%.
2. Reduction in the Sweepstakes by $3,000,000.00.
3. Reduction in the Foundation Aid Program.
4. Elimination of Incentive Aid to reorganized districts.
5. Elimination of aid to the handicapped.

From Washington we receive confusing signals, one from the executive and the other from the legislative, with reference to "bloc grants" and budget cuts. But, from what we have gleaned from our advisors, the following phenomena may take place (or may be delayed for a year since this is an election year for the House of Representatives):

1. Further reduction in nutrition aid with possible elimination of the program.
2. Reduction in compensatory education by 40%.
3. Reduction in vocational aid and elimination by 1984.

Locally we are caught in a crossfire between the cuts and legislative mandates. We must comply with laws and regulations passed by state and national politicians; yet, at the same time we "must make do" with fewer dollars and comply with more regulations.

In several districts we have tried to make budgetary accommodations to fit the problems we are facing. It was a difficult task because the unions are fighting staff reductions and are attempting to politicize the issue by involving parents in the process to keep programs as they are even though we have declining enrollments and little or no financial encouragement from Concord or Washington. The entire electorate must be involved in order that we appropriate funds wisely and not necessarily for any one special interest group.

During the course of the past year there have been innumerable questions concerning the cost of special education. Another naive question is "when are we going to see the end of handicapped children in our districts". The answer to this question is "never" and the answer serves to underscore the continuing liability of each special education program. To fully discuss the special education process would be too lengthy but suffice it to say that when a child has been recommended to the Pupil Placement Team for evaluation, which is a very lengthy and costly process, and later a recommendation comes to our school board for special in-district or out-of-district programming, there is very little that can be said or done to try and change recommendations from your professional staff. There are many evaluations and only those requiring additional are recom-

mended with the cost being borne by the local districts. By districts merging into a special education consortium, we have been able to service our multi-handicapped at a fraction of what it would have cost us out-of-district.

last year this office attempted to present an overview of the tuition picture in Benton for the last ten years. We were partially successful in that some voters understood that the high cost of education for Benton is not necessarily a high tuition charge but more importantly more students are attending and staying in school. For compartative purposes we include tuition charges of schools in the area and, from this chart, one can easily see that Benton could be paying a much higher price for the education of its young men and women:

District	Junior	High
Plymouth Area School		2,434.50
Orford		2,350.00
Oxbow	2,550.00	2,850.00
Thetford Academy	2,775.00	2,775.00
Haverhill Cooperative	1,695.00	2,025.00
Blue Mountain	2,500.00	2,500.00
St. Johnsbury	1,800.00	3,000.00

A new item appearing in the Benton budget is one for Special Education. We have a youngster attending the Multi-Handicapped Regional Center for S.A.U. #23. It should be pointed out that this is a consortium of seven school districts cooperating on a regional basis to support a facility that is providing a quality program at a very conservative sum of money. For school districts within the S.A.U. #23 the tuition charge is $5,000.00; outside the S.A.U. the charge is $10,500.00.

May I take this opportunity to express my appreciation and thanks to the Benton School Board members, faculty and voters of the district for their support and cooperation during the past year.

Respectfully submitted,
NORMAN H. MULLEN
Superintendent of Schools

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT #23
REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT'S AND ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S SALARY

Section 5, Chapter 243, Laws of 1953 of the State of New Hampshire requires that school district annual reports show the total amount paid to the superintendent and assistant superintendent.

One-half of the School Administrative Unit expense is prorated among the several school districts of the Unit on the basis of adjusted valuation. One-half is prorated on the basis of average daily membership in the schools for the previous school year ending June 30. The Superintendent of S.A.U. #23 during the 1981-1982 school year, will receive a salary of $32,500 prorated among the several school districts. The Assistant Superintendent will receive a salary of $27,328.00 prorated among the several school districts. Allowance for travel within the Unit for the Superintendent is $3,000.00 and for the Assistant Superintendent, $2,000.00 also prorated as stated above.

The table below shows the proration of salaries and travel to each school district:

	Superintendent's Salary	Travel
Bath	1,667.25	153.90
Benton	341.25	31.50
Haverhill Cooperative	13,214.50	1,219.80
Lincoln-Woodstock Cooperative	10,244.00	945.60
Monroe	3,558.75	328.50
Piermont	1,868.75	172.50
Warren	1,605.50	148.20
	$32,500.00	$3,000.00

	Assistant Superintendent's Salary	Travel
Bath	1,401.93	102.60
Benton	286.94	21.00
Haverhill Cooperative	11,111.56	813.20
Lincoln-Woodstock Cooperative	8,613.79	630.40
Monroe	2,992.42	219.00
Piermont	1,571.36	115.00
Warren	1,350.00	98.80
	$27,328.00	$2,000.00

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF BENTON, N.H.
For the Year Ending December 31, 1981

Date of Birth and Name of Child	Sex	Name of Father Name of Mother
Nov. 21, 1980 BillyJo Frederick Smith	M	William Frederick Smith Denise Harriet Smith
Feb. 12 James Gerald Page	M	Jeffers Foster Page Marguerite Amy Young
Mar. 4 Daniel John Elliott	M	Daniel Randy Elliott Laurie Sue Sawyer
Apr. 28 Jeffry Thomas Tompkins, Jr.	M	Jeffry Thomas Tompkins Kimberly Dawn Mason
Aug. 14 Lucas Kurt Davis	M	Kurt Andrew Davis Brenda Ann Boutin
Sept. 1 Joshua Allen Boutin	M	Albert Joseph Boutin, Jr. Paula Ann Emery

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF BENTON, N.H.
For the Year Ending December 31, 1981

Date and Names of Groom and Bride	Residence of Groom and Bride	Name of Father Name of Mother
Aug. 15		Robert I. Belyea
David Leo Belyea	Woodsville	Thelma M. Edwards
		James W. Elliott, Sr.
Juanita Jean Elliott	Benton	Margaret D. Mitchell
Officiant: Rev. Harold F. Noyes, RFD #2, Woodsville, N.H.		
Nov. 25		Orris N. Sargent
Edward N. Sargent	Benton	Janice A. Grant
		John W. Lesse
Nancy A. Donohue	Benton	Shirley M. Foster
Officiant: Barbara J. Davidson, RFD #1, North Haverhill, N.H.		
Dec. 19		Paul L. Boutin
Randall G. Boutin	Benton	Doris E. Young
		Ronald Carle
Bernadeen J. Carle	Benton	Beverly Smith
Officiant: Barbara J. Davidson, RFD #1, North Haverhill, N.H.		

DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF BENTON
For the Year Ending December 31, 1981

Date of Death and Name of Deceased	Age	Place of Birth	Name of Father Name of Mother
April 3 Theda Page Brigham	74	N.H.	Ernest T. Page Deleina W. Wetherbee
July 2 Elphage Roux	80	Mass.	Napoleon Roux Clara Roux
Aug. 8 Robert Edward Longpre	65	Mich.	Wilfred Charles Longpre Blanche M. Gagnon
Aug. 20 Lucas Kurt Davis	6 da.	N.H.	Kurt A. Davis Brenda Boutin
Sept. 20 Joseph C. Legault	77	Canada	David Legault Phoebe Bileveau
Nov. 27 Louise Urban	72	N.H.	Lawrence Dizviban Apolina Schepanik

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